

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

**This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:**

**LISTING OF CLAIMS:**

Claims 1-18: (canceled).

Claim 19 (currently amended):      A steering locking device comprising a locking device for automatically locking a steering shaft when a key of an ignition switch is withdrawn in a state in which said key is withdrawable,

wherein a key mechanism section and said locking device of said ignition switch are provided separately, and

said locking device is provided in the a side portion of a lower outside of a housing of a speed reduction unit of a column-type electric power steering apparatus and ~~on a side of an output shaft of said speed reduction unit~~ locks an output shaft of said speed reduction unit on the side portion which is below said speed reduction unit, and

said speed reduction unit reduces a drive force of a motor and transmits it to said output shaft connected to said steering shaft.

Claim 20:      (canceled).

Claim 21 (previously presented): A steering locking device according to claim 19, wherein said locking device is provided on a yoke connected to said output shaft of said speed reduction unit.

Claim 22 (previously presented): A steering locking device according to claim 19, wherein said locking device has a key lock collar, said key lock collar is formed on said output shaft via a ring member.

Claim 23 (previously presented): A steering locking device according to claim 19, wherein said locking device has a key lock collar, said key lock collar is directly fixed to said output shaft by welding.

Claim 24 (previously presented): A steering locking device according to claim 19, wherein a groove for a key lock is formed to said output shaft.

Claim 25 (previously presented): A steering locking device according to claim 19, wherein said locking device electrically makes a lock pin reciprocate based on a key information supplied via a harness connector.